

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00803 021031Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 /078 W
-----021114Z 034446 /23

R 020924Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9035
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 0803

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PBOR, IS, JO
SUBJ: VIEWS OF SENIOR UNRWA OFFICIAL IN NABLUS

1. JOSEPH RIDDA, SENIOR UNRWA OFFICIAL IN NABLUS AND HIGHLY-
RESPECTED WEST BANKER TOLD US JUNE 1 THAT HE BELIEVED AN ISRAELI
GOVERNMENT LED BY BEGIN WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TIGHTEN UP THINGS IN
THE WEST BANK. WEST BANKERS COULD, IN ADDITION TO INCREASED
SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY, SEE MORE RESTRICTIONS ON PERSONAL TRAVEL.
HE THOUGHT THAT RECENT REFUSAL OF MILGOV TO PERMIT MAYORS TO
ATTEND MAYORS CONFERENCE IN RABAT WAS INDICATIVE OF DIRECTION OF
ISRAELI POLICY.

2. ON FUTURE OF MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS, RIDDA SAID GREAT
MAJORITY WEST BANKERS BELIEVE PRESENT CARTER SINCERLY WANTS TO
SOLVE THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. THEY LIKE MOST OF WHAT HE HAS
SAID PUBLICLY ESPECIALLY HIS UNDERSTANDING OF A NEED FOR A PALES-
TINIAN HOMELAND. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE HAD THEIR HOPES REAISED PREV-
IOUSLY ONLY TO BE SUBSEQUENTLY DAHSED SO THEY RETAIN SOME SKEP-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 JERUSA 00803 021031Z

TICISM AS TO WHETHER CARTER CAN DELIVER WHERE OTHERS HAVE FAILED.
FOR EXAMPLE, RIDDA ASKED, WHAT IF ISRAELIS SIMPLY REFUSE TO
WITHDRAW FROM WEST BANK? WHAT WOULD THE U.S. PRESIDENT
BE ABLE TO DO? WOULD HE THREATEN ISRAEL WITH AID CUTS?
WOULD CONGRESS ALLOW THIS? RIDDA NOTED THAT U.S. CONTINUES TO
SAY THAT IT WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE A SETTLEMENT. TO ARABS,
RIDDA SAID, THIS SEEMS LIKE A CODE WORD THAT SAYS THAT U.S.,

IN LONG RUNG, WILL NOT FORCE ISRAELIS TO COMPROMISE. RIDDA WENT ON TO IMPLY THAT ISRAELIS WILL NOT MAKE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS REGARDING WEST BANK UNLESS FORCED TO DO SO. IN THIS REGARD HE DID NOT THINK BEGIN WAS REALLY MUCH DIFFERENT FROM ALIGNMENT'S REAL POSITION REGARDING WEST BANK. ALIGNMENT HAD SIMPLY BEEN MORE SUBTLE. RIDA'S CONCLUSION WAS THAT ONLY THE U.S. AT PRESENT, HAD SUFFICIENT CLOUT TO BRING ABOUT AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

3. COMMENT. RIDDA IS IN MAINSTREAM OF WEST BANK REACTION TO ISRAELI ELECTIONS AND CARTER STATEMENTS WHEN HE SAYS THAT BEGIN IS NOT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM LABOR ALIGNMENT ON MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS BUT WILL PROBABLY BE TOUGHER ON WEST BANKERS. PRESIDENT CARTER IS GIVEN CREDIT FOR BEING MORE FORTHCOMING RE PALESTINIANS THAN ANY US PRESIDENT HAS EVER BEEN BUT THERE IS STILL THAT LATENT PESSIMISM AS TO WHETHER ANY U.S. PRESIDENT HAS ENOUGH LEVERAGE TO INDUCE ISRAEL TO MAKE NECESSARY COMPROMISES FOR PEACE.
NEWLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, WEST BANK, TRAVEL CONTROLS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JERUSA00803
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770196-0701
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770699/aaaadikc.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3a12c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2308048
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIEWS OF SENIOR UNRWA OFFICIAL IN NABLUS
TAGS: PINS, PBOR, IS, JO, UNRWA, (RIDDA, JOSEPH), (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3a12c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009